

IN THE YEAR 260, THE KING
OF THE SASSANIAN EMPIRE IN
PERSIA, SHAPUR I THE GREAT,
DEFEATED THE ROMAN ARMY
AND CAPTURED THE ROMAN
EMPEROR VALERIAN AS
A PRISONER OF WAR.

SHAPUR I THE GREAT OF
THE SASSANIAN EMPIRE
KING

VALERIAN

ROMAN EMPEROR

THAT EMPEROR WAS BECOME A SLAVE

PERSIA

HE ENJOYED A LOT
OF VICTORY, BUT
REMAINS STRONG

PERSIA

AND THE TWO KINGS

THIS WAS
THE GREATEST
BLUNDER OF
MY ENTIRE
LIFE... I
WOULDN'T LONG
MEET THEM!

THE TRAGEDY OF LOVING
AGAINST PEACH AND
HAVING HIS SERVICE
TAKEN HOSTAGE WAS A
LAST AGONY FOR DEAN

WOW,
THESE
ARE SO

PEACH
WHAT THE HELL
ARE YOU DOING
HERE? I KNOW
ALL YOU WANT
TO GO WITH PEACH
BUT NOT
THIS!

MR. TERRY

THANKS A LOT
FOR THE INFO
BUT THE REAL
THAT I WANT
PEACH IS NOT
DOWN THERE...
CAN'T IT BE
TO BE THAT
WONDERFUL?

IT'S NOT A
SHOCK
IT KNOWS AS
A FELLOW
FOR YOUR
LIVES!

OH! LOOK AT
THIS TOTALLY
WONDERFUL
OF WHOLE I'VE
JUST FOUND
COULD IT JUST
BE A SHOCK
SHOCK?

W-WHAT?
HOW WOULD
YOU KNOW
ABOUT SUCH
THINGS?

IT
WAS
TO ONLY
BE
A
SHOCK

PERSIA



(FANCY BACKGROUND)

PERSIA ART SOMETIMES LOOKS
VERY CUTE AND FANCY ARTS.

THIS COUNTRY TO THE EAST OF
ROME WAS GRADUALLY ESTABLISHING
ITS PRESENCE AROUND THIS TIME,
FLOWERING ESPECIALLY THANKS
TO SHAPING THE FINE.

I'M PRETTY SELF-ASSURED AND
MAY APPEAR TO BE CASUAL,
BUT I ASKED TO SURVIVE UNTIL
NOW! THAT'S THE HISTORY OF THIS
TROUBLED MAN.

THE HEAVY FRIENDSHIP OF HIS LIFE COMED
OUT HIS CURRENT PERSONALITY.

HE LOVES TO MAKE SILVER ART OBJECTS,
CARVE RELIEFS, AND IS VERY GOOD WITH
DETAILED WORK. SURROUNDING COUNTRIES
KNOW THAT HE IS A MASTER OF DELICATE OBJECTS.





GRABBING VALERIAN

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE CAUGHT A WILD ROMAN EMPEROR!
IT'S THE ROMAN EMPEROR VALERIAN!
IT'S A SCENE THAT'S DEARHLY OFTEN IN PERSIAN ART, BUT
IN ALMOST ALL CASES THEY ARE DEPICED WITH SHAPUR I
GRABBING OR HOLDING ONTO HIS HEAD.



Valerian

Shapur I

THE MAJOR EFFORT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF
GRABBING SOMEONE BY THE HEAD IS A DEPOSITION
OF HIGH COOPERATION ON VALERIAN'S SIDE.



FOR A LONG TIME IT WAS THOUGHT THAT THE MORE PROMINENT
FIGURE OF A PERSON SMILING IN FRONT OF THE OTHER WAS
VALERIAN, BUT THIS PERSON WAS ANOTHER ROMAN EMPEROR,
PHILIP THE ARAB, AND THE ASSENT-HINGELED LOOKING PERSON
IN THE BACKGROUND WHOSE ARM IS GRABBED BY SHAPUR IS
ACTUALLY VALERIAN.



AND THIS IS A RELIEF OF SHAPUR I LOOKING VERY RELAXED AS
HE HAS HIS BACK TO HIS ENEMY AND LAYS THE OFFENDING
EMPEROR'S HEAD ON HIS OWN HEAD.

APART FROM THE OCCASIONAL LEOP
OR HORSE, SHAPUR THE FIRST ONLY
EVER HOLDS VALERIAN IN HIS HANDS. II

NO MATTER HOW IMPOSSIBLE THE COMPOSITION IS, IT NEVER
STOPPED SHAPUR I FROM HOLDING ONTO VALERIAN. THAT THERE
ARE MANY ARTWORKS WHERE SHAPUR'S OR VALERIAN'S ARM IS
STRETCHED OUT OF PROPORTION. SO BASICALLY, SHAPUR'S FIRST
PRIORITY WAS TO ALWAYS HOLD VALERIAN'S HEAD!

II THERE ARE EVEN SOME SCULPTURE WORKS WHERE THEY DEPICT
SHAPUR I GRABBING A REALLY BAD-LOOKING ROMAN FROM THE
FEET OF HIS HEAD!



A LONG WHILE LATER...

